



March  
2017

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# Immanuel's GROUND

Warwick's West Gallery Quire

NEWSLETTER 16

MID-SHIRE'S' QUIRES' DAY

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL 2017

BYFIELD VILLAGE HALL NORTHANTS NN11 6UT

10.00AM - 4.30PM

WEST GALLERY WORKSHOP FOR SINGERS AND  
INSTRUMENTALISTS

EXPLORING PSALMS, HYMNS AND ANTHEMS

FROM THE MID-SHIRE'S

hosted by

Immanuel's Ground

Cost £8, to include light refreshments and music.

This, our **13th Annual Workshop at Byfield**, will run from 10.00 am until 4.30 pm, light refreshments being available during the day. A book of music will be provided, but please bring a savoury or sweet dish (cold food only, cut up, and ready to serve please) to the shared lunch.

**Hall capacity is limited to 80 people**, so please book early to ensure a place, and to enable the production of music books,

**please return your booking form no later than 18 April 2017.**

The booking form can be found at the back of this newsletter,  
and additional copies can be downloaded at

[www.immanuelsground.com](http://www.immanuelsground.com)



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You have received this occasional Newsletter from Immanuel's Ground in order to keep you abreast of the Quire's activities, and because you have given us your email address for contact purposes. If, however, you now no longer wish to be kept informed in this way, please email the Quire's Webmaster at [edwin@immanuelsground.com](mailto:edwin@immanuelsground.com) and your address will be removed from our list.



**SING WARWICK 2107** on 11th February was a great success, with well over 80 people attending for a day's singing and playing at St Nicholas' Church, Warwick, where we explored newly found church music in the Warwickshire County Record Office. The following is a copy of the write-up by our Chairman, Sue Lanfear:

**Sing Warwick 2017**, run by Edwin and Sheila Macadam, and Immanuel's Ground (IGQ), was an all day workshop which took place on Saturday 11th February at St Nicholas', Warwick.

The church website describes St Nicholas as 'an unusually fine example of Gothic revival architecture' being built in 1785 to replace a medieval church built on the site of a Saxon nunnery. So we were in the heart of Warwick, opposite the gates of the castle in a very pretty church built right in the middle of our WG period. The church was built complete with a west gallery across the entire west end, albeit now housing the organ.

The workshop was billed as 'An Exploration of music contained in four Quire Books from Harborough Magna, and Warwick St Nicholas, now held by Warwickshire County Record Office.' Our composers for the day were William Beasley, John Hill, Joseph Key, Michael Dobney, John Alcock (jnr), John Valentine, Thomas Collins, and our old friend Unknown.

Although it was a dismal day, 85 folk in some cases from as far as the West Country and the East Coast, and including 22 instrumentalists, had braved the roads and the weather to come and make music. Set out on tables behind our conductor's stand were the books containing the originals of our music for the day, set out by, and on generous loan from, Warwickshire County Record Office. At their request these valuable books were justifiably guarded by Mrs Macadam against rough handling and photography.

As was demonstrated by the excellent turnout - including some 50 people new to West Gallery - there is tremendous enthusiasm for our kind of music, and the success of the day itself was the result of some painstaking research by our leaders.

In the past IGQ has held a couple of gigs at Brinklow, including our last Christmas concert, which were very much based on local composer William Beasley and other local singers and/or instrumentalists known to have been involved with church music of the time.

It was therefore quite a sobering thought that some of our material would have been used in St Nicholas, and most definitely in St John the Baptist, Brinklow, and that it was only now being heard again after a gap of 200 years.

Part of the reason for the workshop was to give WCRO (as well as IGQ and West Gallery Music Association) more publicity, and also to give WRCO financial help for conservation purposes in this time of imposed constraints on local authorities.

Thus to forge a link between a west gallery quire and a Record Office at a time when the latter's support is at least precarious, demonstrates the value of such a link, and for us to be able to turn their (in some cases tattered) manuscripts into live and vibrant sound on a day such as we enjoyed, adds purpose and perspective to our joint causes.



## !! RECRUITMENT !!

We are hoping to find additional singers and players to swell our numbers from amongst those who like coming to our events, either as singers or as instrumentalists (and, yes, string players can – and do – manage both simultaneously!)

As to instruments, we try to keep within the bounds set by historical records, namely strings and woodwind (including serpents, curtals and light brass etc., but not heavy Eb instruments which tend to overpower the others!) As to singers, all are very welcome whatever age or ability; much of the music can be learned by ear, although of course the ability to read music is an advantage.

We hope that some of you may be interested in learning more of what we do as a Quire. We practice most Wednesday evenings at Northgate Church, or Hall, in Warwick, from 8pm to about 10 pm. If you can phone 01926 492945 and speak to Ian Meddoms beforehand, it would be helpful to know if extra copies of music are necessary!!

## DIARY—FORTHCOMING CONCERTS &c

### Saturday 29 April 2017

Mid-Shires' Quires' Day at Byfield Village Hall, Northants. NN11 6UT

### Sunday 25 June 2017

Patronal Evensong at the Church of St Peter & St Paul, Chipping Warden, Northants. OX17 1JU

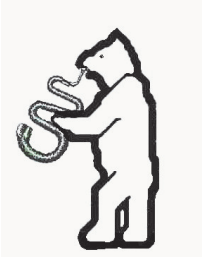
### Saturday 4 November 2017

Sing Birmingham 2017: All-day Workshop at St Nicholas, Kings Norton, Birmingham.

B38 8RU

### Saturday 9 December 2017

Carol Service at either Wellesbourne, or Walton d'Eivile, Warwickshire



# MID-SHIRES' QUIRES' DAY 2017

## SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2107

Immanuel's Ground, Warwick's West Gallery Quire, extend a warm invitation to join them in a day of regional West Gallery music. The cost will be £8 per person. A book of music, and light refreshments will be provided, but please bring a savoury or sweet dish, (cold food only, cut up, and ready to serve) to the shared lunch.

The day's singing and playing will be held at Byfield Village Hall, Northants. NN11 6UT, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., doors open at 9.30 a.m. Byfield is on the A361, midway between the M40 (Junction 11) and the M1 (Junction 16). Numbers are limited to 80 people, so please book early to ensure a place, and to enable the production of music books, **return your booking form no later than 18 April 2017.**

Name: ..... Tel: .....

Address: ..... E-mail: .....

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.....  
.....

No. of places required @£8 per person..... Total: £.....

Please give names of all those for whom this booking is made:

..... Voice (SAT or B?) or instrument (please indicate) .....

..... Voice (SAT or B?) or instrument (please indicate) .....

..... Voice (SAT or B?) or instrument (please indicate) .....

..... Voice (SAT or B?) or instrument (please indicate) .....

(B b clarinet part book required: YES / NO)

Please complete and return this form, together with a cheque made payable to Immanuel's Ground, to:  
Sheila Macadam, 30 Eynsham Road, Botley, Oxford, OX2 9BP  
Tel: 01865 865773 Email: [shelwin8@tsicali.co.uk](mailto:shelwin8@tsicali.co.uk)

(If you require a receipt, please enclose an s.a.e.)